

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06002 281645Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----013884 281649Z /45

O 281634Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9690
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 06002

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, OREP (PRICE, MELVIN)
SUBJECT: CODEL PRICE CONTACT WITH DISSIDENTS AND
REFUSENIKS

1. CONGRESSMEN WAXMAN AND CARR AND CONGRESSWOMAN
SCHROEDER MET SEPARATELY WITH UNIDENTIFIED REFUSENIKS
DURING THEIR STAY IN LENINGRAD MARCH 25-26. USA INSTITUTE
DIRECTOR ARBATOV WHO HAD GONE TO LENINGRAD TO MEET CODEL
BECAME AWARE OF AT LEAST WAXMAN'S INTENTION TO CONTACT
REFUSENIKS AND COMMENTED TO POL COUNSELOR THAT SUCH
CONTACTS WOULD "NOT BE HELPFUL."

2. MARCH 28 WAXMAN, CARR AND SCHROEDER MET COLLECTIVELY
WITH A GROUP OF SOME TWENTY MOSCOW REFUSENIKS.
SHCHARANSKIY'S MOTHER, IDA MILGROM, WAS REPORTEDLY AT
THE MEETING BUT WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER SHE SPOKE
DIRECTLY WITH ANY OF THE CONGRESSMEN.

3. MARCH 29, CONGRESSMAN WAXMAN, PERHAPS ACCOMPANIED
BY CARR AND SCHROEDER, PLANS TO CALL ON SAKHAROV. IN
ORDER TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OFFICIAL
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CODEL PROGRAM PLANNED FOR SAME DAY, EMBASSY HAS BEEN
REQUESTED BY CODEL STAFF SECRETARY FORD TO WAIT TO MAKE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR WAXMAN MEETING WITH SAKHAROV UNTIL FINAL
CODEL CALL IN MOSCOW (ON OGARKOV AT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE)
IS UNDERWAY. EMBOFF WILL, AT APPROPRIATE TIME,
CONTACT SAKHAROV BY PHONE IF POSSIBLE, OTHERWISE IN
PERSON, AND ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR WAXMAN EVENING

MARCH 29. IF SAKHAROV AGREES TO MEETING, WHICH WE EXPECT HE WILL, WAXMAN WILL BE PROVIDED EMBASSY CAR BUT NO REPEAT NO EMBASSY ESCORT OFFICER FOR MEETING.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO MINIMIZE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CODEL CONTACTS WITH DISSIDENTS AND REFUSENIKS, BUT WE DO NOT FEEL WE CAN REFUSE TO BE OF AT LEAST MINIMAL ASSISTANCE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR WAXMAN TO SEE PROMINENT SOVIET DISSIDENT SUCH AS SAKHAROV. TOON

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